



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**


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July 5, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CONTRACT WITH THE AMER-I-CAN
FOUNDATION (Board Agenda Item #56, February 21, 2006)**

On February 21, 2006, your Board instructed the Auditor-Controller (A-C), in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department (Sheriff), to monitor the Amer-I-Can Foundation (Amer-I-Can or Contractor) contract during the first year, and to report to the Board prior to the Sheriff requesting a contract extension. The Sheriff contracted with Amer-I-Can to provide Disturbance Mediation Training in the County jails. The current contract became effective August 21, 2006.

Background

The Sheriff previously contracted with Amer-I-Can from June 20, 2000 through December 31, 2004 to provide Disturbance Mediation Training. In May 2004, the A-C contracted with Conrad and Associates, LLP, (Conrad) to evaluate Amer-I-Can's contract performance.

On July 25, 2005, Conrad issued a report that noted a number of areas where Amer-I-Can did not comply with the contract requirements or provide the required level of services. Conrad's report also indicated that the Sheriff did not effectively monitor the contract to ensure Amer-I-Can complied with all the contract requirements.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Current Contract Monitoring Results

Overall, Amer-I-Can appropriately provided the services identified in their current County contract. The Contractor provided the Sheriff with weekly time records and training schedules that document the dates, subjects covered, instructors' names and start times and end times. The Contractor also completed the required number of classes as identified in the County contract. In addition, the Contractor's instructors met the required qualifications and were approved by the Sheriff's management.

The Sheriff also improved their oversight of the contract. Prior to Amer-I-Can beginning their County contract, A-C staff worked with the Sheriff staff to ensure that the areas they monitored effectively evaluated the Contractor's compliance with the key deliverables identified in the County contract.

Sheriff staff performed on-site daily monitoring and the Sheriff's Contract Compliance Monitoring Section also conducted quarterly monitoring reviews of Amer-I-Can. Quarterly monitoring reports noted that the Contractor generally complied with the contract requirements and provided the required number of class sessions. The quarterly reports also noted some administrative areas where Amer-I-Can did not always comply with the County contract. Amer-I-Can subsequently corrected the areas of non-compliance.

We also reviewed the Sheriff's quarterly monitoring results and performed two site visits to the North County Correctional Facility where the Contractor provided Disturbance Meditation Training. Sheriff staff assigned to monitor the Contractor maintained the appropriate documentation to support the Contractor's compliance with the County contract. As part of our site visit, we also interviewed several inmates, who stated that the Disturbance Mediation Training was very beneficial.

Conclusion

The current contract with Amer-I-Can will expire on August 20, 2007. Based on the results of the Sheriff's monitoring reviews and our site visits, Amer-I-Can materially complied with their County contract. If you have any question, please call me or have your staff call Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:DC:EB

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Executive Officer
Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff
Public Information Office
Audit Committee